

## Islamic Barbarism: Man Burned Alive in Pakistan for Alleged Quran Burning

Written by M. A. Khan

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It appears that Islamic barbarism, which had a fascinating year in Pakistan, will end the Mayan 'Dooms Day' year on a high. Even if nothing further of the sort happens during the next 9 days when the year ends, it will still have a glorious finish with a man just burned alive for alleged desecration of the holy Quran.



In Pakistan, rumour or suspicion of burning or desecrating the Quran or insulting Prophet Muhammad incites Muslims to burn the accused alive!

According to a ['The Times of India' report](#) on 22 Dec 2012, a Muslim mob raided a police station and snatched a man, accused of burning a Quran, from the police custody and burned him alive.

The victim of this barbarity was a traveler, who stayed overnight at a mosque in the village of Seeta in Sindh province. The next morning, charred remains of a burned Quran was found next

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to the mosque. The man, who spent the night alone in the mosque, was suspected of doing the misdeed, and locals beat him up and handed to the police. A few hours later, a mob of some 200 unruly Muslims raided the police station, dragged the man out, and set him on fire.

The latest incident once again brings the world's attention to Pakistan's blasphemy law, which has spawned repeated incidents of violence, death and persecution over flimsy accusations of blasphemy. Such incidents are often instigated by rumors of desecrating the Quran or insulting Prophet Muhammad. Under blasphemy law, people have even been arrested for just discussing or writing about Islam, making mistakes in homework on Islamic subjects, or for not joining protests, organized against insults of Islam. In some cases, the accused are set up over financial disputes and land-grab plots.

Accusations of blasphemy and violence over it has been on a steep rise in Pakistan, which has claimed at least 53 lives since 1990.

One recent case was that of Rishma Masih, a Christian teenager, which received international attention. She was accused of burning the Quran, and some burnt pages of it were discovered in a bag of rubbish she was carrying. Given Rishma was only 13 years old and mentally unstable, her case roused international outcry, including protests from US politicians. This forced the Pakistan authority to do proper investigations into the case, and it turned out that a local Imam had set up Rishma in a land-grab plot so as to instigate Muslims to terrorize the local Christian community and drive them out of their homes. It should be noted that most cases of blasphemy accusations are rarely thoroughly investigated, neither do lawyers dare properly defending the accused in fear of themselves being charged with blasphemy and murdered by Islamic extremists.

The most notable amongst blasphemy incidents in recent years was the case of the Christian woman Asia Bibi, who was sentenced to death by Pakistan's court on flimsy accusation of blasphemy. While Asia Bibi still lives on, thanks to international attention to her case, two prominent politicians – Minorities Affairs Minister Shahbaz Bhatti, a Christian, and Punjab governor Salman Taseer – were assassinated by Islamic extremists because of their speaking against Pakistan's blasphemy law. Salman Taseer's personal bodyguard Mumtaz Qadri, who killed him, was greeted with rose-petal by lawyers in the court, while the judge, who found Qadri guilty, had to flee Pakistan to save his life.